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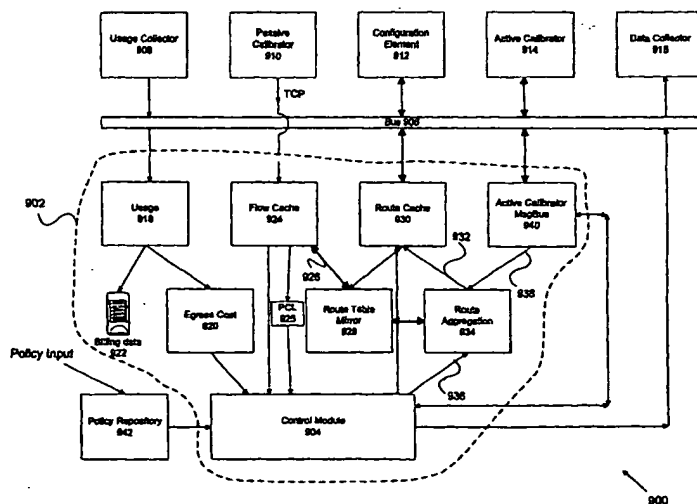
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: DATA NETWORK CONTROLLER



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides for a system and method for data network control. Using a flow control system, embodiments of the present invention can analyze traffic flow volume and performance (910,924), incorporate usage, billing, and cost control data to yield an improved data network controller. Efficiency in data routing is improved while costs are decreased by enabling the selection of the optimal performance data route. Cost constraints and costs are minimized for an overall data load (908,918,922,920). Given a diverse set of cost structures for available transit providers, the overall system cost can be minimized by distributing traffic in a manner that takes advantage of the diverse billing structure and yet maintains acceptable performance levels. Systems and methods in accordance with embodiments of the present invention determine projected flow performance and projected flow volume in relation to the available bandwidth and marginal cost to a destination provider (908,918,922,920,914,916).



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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US CL : 709/224

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 709/224,225,221

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EAST, IEE Online search terms: QOS, allocation, bandwidth, quality of service

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,047,326 A (KILKKI) 04 April 2000, column 9-17	1-21
Y	US 6,055,571 A (FULP et al.) 25 April 2000, column 7-13	1-21
Y	US 6,154,778 A (KOISTINEN et al.) 28 November 2000, column 9-11	1-21
A	US 5,724,513 A (BEN-NUN et al.) 03 March 1998	1-21
A	US 5,898,668 A (SHAFFER) 27 April 1999	1-21

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

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document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

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